

12. Education [142]

Commitment:

“We, along with other donors, will continue efforts to mobilize bilateral and multilateral resources to meet the shortfalls of FTI-endorsed countries estimated by the FTI Secretariat at around USD1 billion for 2008, while supporting the improvement of its effectiveness through an external evaluation. There should be a strong emphasis placed on the quality of education and program effectiveness.”

G8 Leaders Declaration on Development and Africa

Assessment:

Interim Compliance Score

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
	-1	0	+1
Canada	-1		
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union		0	
Average Score	-0.22		

Background:

In 1990, at the World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien, Thailand, delegates from 155 countries and 150 organizations agreed to drastically reduce illiteracy and universalize primary education by 2000.⁶⁸¹ In April 2000, Senegal hosted the World Education Forum.⁶⁸² Participants adopted the Dakar Framework for Action, and UNESCO assumed responsibility for coordinating between participants and maintaining momentum.⁶⁸³

⁶⁸¹ The World Conference on Education for All 1990, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 5 December 2008.

http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/world_conference_jomtien.shtml.

⁶⁸² EDUCATION Primary Education, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 7 December 2008.

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=33163&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

⁶⁸³ EDUCATION Primary Education, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 7 December 2008.

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=33163&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

In 2002, the World Bank partnered with UNESCO, as well as donor and developing countries, to launch the Fast Track Initiative (FTI).⁶⁸⁴ FTI is a planning and funding mechanism, overseen by a small secretariat, intended to help the world's poorest countries achieve Education for All. FTI-endorsed countries are deemed to have "a credible education sector plan" by local donors, using guidelines laid out by the FTI.⁶⁸⁵ The initiative helps promote and coordinate effective bilateral and multilateral aid for education, and also directly funds some projects through the Education Program Development Fund and the Catalytic Fund.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 countries reaffirmed their support for the Education for All Initiative and endorsed the results of the G8 Education Task Force, which reported at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit.⁶⁸⁶ In 2005, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to the Initiative, placing particular emphasis on education in Africa.⁶⁸⁷ The leaders also expressed their support for the Fast Track Initiative (FTI).⁶⁸⁸

Despite Education for All's regular promotion at the G8, funding shortfalls in FTI-endorsed countries have grown. At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 members pledged to close a USD500 million funding gap.⁶⁸⁹ The FTI Secretariat now estimates the shortfall at USD1 billion.⁶⁹⁰ At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 leaders expressed support for improvements to the FTI's effectiveness through an external evaluation and called for greater emphasis on countries affected by conflicts, and on marginalized populations.⁶⁹¹ The FTI Evaluation Oversight Committee was established to manage the external evaluation, to be carried out between mid-2008 and mid-2009, evaluating the FTI's activities from 2002 to 2008.⁶⁹² A final report is expected in September 2009.

⁶⁸⁴ Education: International Initiatives, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 7 December 2008.

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=24181&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html.

⁶⁸⁵ Education for All – Fast Track Initiative, World Bank (Washington), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. http://www.untj.org/principals/files/education/FTI_factsheet_endorsement.pdf.

⁶⁸⁶ A New Focus on Education for All, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2002. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/education.html>.

⁶⁸⁷ Africa, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

⁶⁸⁸ Africa, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

⁶⁸⁹ Summit Declaration on Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G8 Heiligendamm Summit (Heiligendamm) 8 June 2007. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. http://www.g-8.de/Content/DE/Artikel/G8Gipfel/Anlage/Abschlusserklaerung_C3_A4rungen/WV-afrika-en.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/WV-afrika-en.

⁶⁹⁰ Fast Track Initiative, World Bank (Tokyo) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 5 December 2008. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/JAPANINJAPANESEEXT/Resources/515497-1196389582361/080422_FTII_en.pdf.

⁶⁹¹ Summit Declaration on Development and Africa, G8 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit (Hokkaido-Toyako) 8 July 2008. Date of Access: 7 December 2008. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/doc/doc080709_03_en.html.

⁶⁹² FTI Evaluation Oversight Committee Terms of Reference, World Bank (Washington) Date of Access: 7 December 2008. http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/eoc_tor.pdf.

Additionally, a report on G8 progress on FTI will be delivered at the 2009 Summit.⁶⁹³

Commitment Features:

This commitment requires G8 member states to work towards meeting shortfalls in FTI-endorsed countries. This requires some financial commitment on the part of the states themselves, as well as an effort to mobilize bilateral or multilateral funding from other donors. It should be noted that much of the funding for FTI-endorsed countries is bilateral, and while it is more difficult to gather information on these aid flows, bilateral aid does indeed constitute compliance with his commitment.

Scoring:

-1	Member does not deliver some of its previously committed funds for FTI-endorsed countries. Member does not cooperate with other donors to raise funds, AND does not contribute any new funding.
0	Member commits new funds, but does not cooperate with other donors to raise funds for FTI-endorsed countries. Alternatively, member obtains shortfall funding from other donors but does not increase its own funding.
+1	Member increases its funds for FRI-endorsed countries to cover shortfalls AND actively cooperates with other donors to raise funds.

Lead Analyst: Sahar Kazranian

Canada: -1

Canada has not complied with its commitment to meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

Support for Education for All is one component of the Canadian International Development Agency's Sustainable Development Strategy for 2007-2009.⁶⁹⁴ The agency promises to "work with partner countries to develop credible national education plans," an initiative that could help qualify countries for FTI funding. CIDA has not, however, announced any new funding for education in FTI-endorsed countries since the Hokkaido-Toyako Summit.

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program

⁶⁹³ Development and Africa, G8 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit (Hokkaido-Toyako) 8 July 2008. Date of Access: 7 December 2008.

http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/doc/doc080709_03_en.html.

⁶⁹⁴ Sustainable Development Strategy: 2007-2009, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 9 January 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/RAC-1129144152-R4Q#act2b>.

Development Fund (EPDF). According to the FTI Catalytic Fund's Interim Status Report, Canada has not made any commitment or payment to the Fund for 2008 or 2009.⁶⁹⁵

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of -1. Canada has not actively pursued new funds from other sources, nor has it pledged or contributed financially to the FTI Funds.

Analyst: Tala Khoury

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF). In this compliance period, the Catalytic Fund has received USD7.9 million from France.⁶⁹⁶ In contrast, last spring the FTI reported that France had not delivered any promised funds at all for the 2003-2010 period.⁶⁹⁷ The FTI Secretariat noted that since 2007, the Catalytic Fund's receipts from donors have nearly doubled, thanks in part to France's recent contribution.

More remains to be done, however. On 25 November 2008, UNESCO released the Education For All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report 2009. The document noted that several donors – including France – “should urgently review their current aid allocations.”⁶⁹⁸

Thus, France has been awarded a score of 0. Although France has provided increased funding for the FTI, there is no evidence that it has made any effort to mobilize bilateral or multilateral funding from other donors.

Analyst: Julien Russell Brunet

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF). In 2007, the German Federal Ministry for Economic

⁶⁹⁵ FTI Catalytic Fund Annual Status Report, FTI Secretariat (France) December 2008. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_CF_Annual_Status_Report_Oslo_2008.pdf.

⁶⁹⁶ FTI Catalytic Fund Annual Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Oslo) 13 December 2008. Date of Access: 7 January 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_CF_Annual_Status_Report_Oslo_2008.pdf.

⁶⁹⁷ FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Tokyo) 22 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

⁶⁹⁸ Highlights of the EFA Report 2009, UNESCO (Paris) 25 November 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr2009/press/efagmr2009_Highlights.pdf.

Cooperation and Development announced that Germany planned to contribute EUR8 million to the FTI's Catalytic Fund between 2007 and 2009, in order to alleviate funding shortfalls.⁶⁹⁹ The FTI's Catalytic Fund status reports indicate that during this compliance cycle, Germany has increased its total pledged funds from USD7.2 million to USD9.8 million.⁷⁰⁰ In this compliance cycle, however, Germany has not actually disbursed any of this promised funding to the Catalytic Fund.

UNESCO's Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2009 called on Germany to review its current aid allocations.⁷⁰¹ According to the report, Germany allocates only 7 per cent of its total development assistance for education to basic education in low-income countries, placing a greater priority on subsidizing attendance at German universities.⁷⁰² According to the Global Campaign for Education, Germany's contribution falls short of its "fair share" of FTI targets.⁷⁰³ The Campaign's recent report states that Germany and three other donor countries (Italy, Japan, and the United States) have collectively contributed only 10 per cent of the amount needed to fulfill their promises on universal education.⁷⁰⁴

At a meeting of EU development ministers held at the end of September, German Minister Heide Wieczorek-Zeul encouraged her EU counterparts to make renewed financial commitments towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.⁷⁰⁵ At the Doha Conference on Financing for Development in November, Minister Wieczorek-Zeul reiterated her comments by calling for industrialized countries to "redouble their efforts" in development aid.⁷⁰⁶

⁶⁹⁹ Promoting children's education, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 2007. Date of Access: 11 December 2008.

<http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/HumanRights/kinderrechte/arbeitsfelder/bildung/index.html>.

⁷⁰⁰ FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Tokyo) 22 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

FTI Catalytic Fund Annual Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Oslo) 13 December 2008. Date of Access: 7 January 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_CF_Annual_Status_Report_Oslo_2008.pdf.

⁷⁰¹ EFA – Global Monitoring Report 2009: "Overcoming inequality: why governance matters", UNESCO (Paris) November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0017/001776/177683E.pdf>.

⁷⁰² EFA – Global Monitoring Report 2009: "Overcoming inequality: why governance matters", UNESCO (Paris) November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0017/001776/177683E.pdf>.

⁷⁰³ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments' Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷⁰⁴ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments' Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷⁰⁵ Wieczorek-Zeul seeks to win EU Development Ministers' support for International Conference on Financing for Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) September 2008. Date of Access: 12 December 2008.

http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2008/september/pm_20080929_90.html.

⁷⁰⁶ Wieczorek-Zeul describes Financing for Development conference as success in fight against poverty, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) December 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008.

http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2008/december/pm_20081202_117.html?PHPSESSID=1be2b92abdb28a2dc483a2a826022cb6.

Despite a renewed call for action on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, German representatives have not specific references to Education for All. As a result, it appears that Germany has not mobilized funding from other donors to meet FTI shortfalls.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0 for promising further funding to the FTI's Catalytic Fund, though it has not disbursed more funding or mobilized funding from other sources.

Analyst: Isabel Dimitrov

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to the meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

On the Italian Development Cooperation website, Education for All is listed as one of Italy's "most important initiatives."⁷⁰⁷ Indeed, prior to the Hokkaido-Toyoko Summit, Italy followed through on the modest funds it pledged to the FTI Catalytic Fund between 2004 and 2008.⁷⁰⁸ Furthermore, on 12 December 2008, three Italian representatives, including Renzo Rossos, coordinator of multilateral cooperation, Francesca Cozzarini, and Teresa Savanella, adviser for multilateral cooperation, participated in the FTI Steering Committee Meeting in Oslo, Norway.⁷⁰⁹

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF). Although Italy committed and delivered USD4.2 million to the Catalytic Fund for 2008, the disbursement took place before the Hokkaido-Toyoko Summit, so this does not constitute compliance.⁷¹⁰ Italy has not yet pledged any amount for 2009.⁷¹¹

According to the Global Campaign for Education, Italy's contribution falls short of its "fair share" of FTI targets.⁷¹² The Campaign's recent report states that Italy and three other donor countries (Germany, Japan, and the United States) have collectively

⁷⁰⁷ Italian Development Cooperation, Ministero degli Affari Esteri (Rome). Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://sedi.esteri.it/portaledgcs/portaledgcs/inglese/intro.html>.

⁷⁰⁸ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Washington) April 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

⁷⁰⁹ FTI Steering Committee Meeting Participants List, FTI Secretariat (Oslo) 12 December 2008. Date of Access: 7 January 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_SC_Participants_list.pdf.

⁷¹⁰ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Washington) 17 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

⁷¹¹ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Washington) 17 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

⁷¹² No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments' Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

contributed only 10 per cent of the amount needed to fulfill their promises on universal education.⁷¹³

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of -1. Italy has not promised or delivered any funding to FTI-endorsed countries since the Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, and has not mobilized funding from other sources.

Analyst: Tala Khoury

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries. Japan has promised and disbursed additional funds for the FTI's catalytic fund, but it has not mobilized donations from other sources.

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF). Prior to the Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, Japan promised USD1.2 million for the Catalytic Fund.⁷¹⁴ Between April and September 2008, it delivered on this commitment.⁷¹⁵ In this compliance cycle, Japan also committed an additional USD1.2 million for the Catalytic Fund, to be disbursed in 2009.⁷¹⁶

As co-chair of the FTI Secretariat in 2008, Japan hosted the EFA-FTI Technical Meeting in April and the Tokyo International Conference on African Development in May.⁷¹⁷ Despite its serving as co-chair, there was no evidence that Japan has encouraged other donors to meet FTI funding shortfalls since the Hokkaido-Toyako Summit.

Furthermore, the latest Education for All Global Monitoring Report commented that Japan continues to “invest a very low share of gross national income in development assistance.”⁷¹⁸ According to the Global Campaign for Education, Japan's contribution

⁷¹³ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments' Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷¹⁴ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Washington) April 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

⁷¹⁵ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Washington) April 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Paris) September 2008. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

⁷¹⁶ Catalytic Fund Annual Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Oslo) December 2008. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_CF_Annual_Status_Report_Oslo_2008.pdf.

⁷¹⁷ The Education for All-Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI) Technical Meeting and Related Meetings, and Policy Speech by Mr. Masahiko Koumura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) April 2008. Date of Access: 12 December 2008. http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/4/1179263_932.html.

⁷¹⁸ EFA – Global Monitoring Report 2009: “Overcoming inequality: why governance matters”, UNESCO (Paris) November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0017/001776/177683E.pdf>.

falls short of its “fair share” of FTI targets.⁷¹⁹ The Campaign’s recent report states that Japan and three other donor countries (Germany, Italy, and the United States) have collectively contributed only 10 per cent of the amount needed to fulfill their promises on universal education.⁷²⁰

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of 0. Although Japan has pledged funds to the FTI, it has not actively pursued funding from other donors.

Analyst: Isabel Dimitrov

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to the meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

On 14 July 2008, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev signed an order under which Russia will commit up to USD10 million annually in 2009-2011 to the FTI-EFA framework.⁷²¹ Russia has pledged approximately USD3 million to the FTI for 2009.⁷²² According to the order, the Russian government pledged to allocate USD42.9 million to implement programs for improved basic education in the CIS, Asian, and African countries in the period of 2008-2012⁷²³. The government also approved the allocation of USD2 million for the creation of the International Cooperation Centre for Education Development.⁷²⁴ Russia has also pledged USD425 000 to UNESCO to finance international surveys on education quality conducted within the EFA framework⁷²⁵.

Thus, Russia has been awarded a score 0 for its contributions to FTI initiatives.

Analyst: Arina Shadrikova

United Kingdom: +1

⁷¹⁹ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments’ Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷²⁰ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments’ Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷²¹ The Governmental Order from November 5 2008 N 1614-p. Date of Access: 4 December 2008.
<http://www.government.ru/content/governmentactivity/rfgovernmentdecisions/archive/2008/11/05/2247889.htm>

⁷²² The Governmental Order from November 5 2008 N 1614-p. Date of Access: 4 December 2008.
<http://www.government.ru/content/governmentactivity/rfgovernmentdecisions/archive/2008/11/05/2247889.htm>

⁷²³ The Governmental Order from 14 July 2008 N 1000-p. Date of Access: 4 December 2008.
<http://www.government.ru/content/governmentactivity/rfgovernmentdecisions/archive/2008/07/14/2063563.htm>

⁷²⁴ The Governmental Order from 14 July 2008 N 1000-p. Date of Access: 4 December 2008.
<http://www.government.ru/content/governmentactivity/rfgovernmentdecisions/archive/2008/07/14/2063563.htm>

⁷²⁵ Speech of the Deputy of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation A. Yakovenko on the discussion on the education and health issues at a high-level event on the Millennium Development Goals at United Nations Headquarters on 25 September 2008. Date of Access: 4 December 2008.
http://www.mid.ru/Brp_4.nsf/arh/ADECE2CF3E67A8DBC32574D00025AF86?OpenDocument

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to the meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

On 26 September 2008, the Department for International Development announced GBP50 million in new funding for FTI.⁷²⁶ The contribution was made “as part of the UK's commitment to give GBP8.5 billion over ten years up to 2015 towards education.”⁷²⁷

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program Development Fund. Between April and September 2008, the UK increased its disbursements to the Catalytic Fund by USD132 million.⁷²⁸ In September, the FTI Secretariat noted that “since the [April 2008] CF Committee meeting, cash receipts from donors have increased from USD825 million to USD994 million due largely to receipts from the UK and the EC, and from two new donors to the fund (Australia and Japan).”⁷²⁹ It is unclear whether these payments were made during the current compliance cycle.

On 9 December 2008, UK Ambassador Denise Holt addressed students of EU Law at Madrid's Carlos III University.⁷³⁰ In her address, Ambassador Holt commented on the UK and Spain's “major new contributions to the Education Fast Track initiative.”⁷³¹ In light of how much the UK and Spain have in common in their approach to development issues – FTI being one instance – Ambassador Holt resolved that the two countries “must work together to encourage other countries to hold firm on their commitments” as well.⁷³²

⁷²⁶ UN meeting on poverty exceeds all expectations: \$16 billion of new commitments as broadest ever alliance assembles to fight for common goal, Department for International Development (London) 26 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/un-high-level.asp>.

⁷²⁷ UN meeting on poverty exceeds all expectations: \$16 billion of new commitments as broadest ever alliance assembles to fight for common goal, Department for International Development (London) 26 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/un-high-level.asp>.

⁷²⁸ FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Paris) 17 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Tokyo) 22 April 2008. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

⁷²⁹ FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Paris) 17 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

⁷³⁰ Address by Ambassador Denise Holt at Carlos III University, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 December 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/newsroom/latest-news/?view=Speech&id=10486554>.

⁷³¹ Address by Ambassador Denise Holt at Carlos III University, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 December 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/newsroom/latest-news/?view=Speech&id=10486554>.

⁷³² Address by Ambassador Denise Holt at Carlos III University, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 December 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/newsroom/latest-news/?view=Speech&id=10486554>.

Thus, the United Kingdom has been awarded a score of +1 for committing significant new funds to the Fast Track Initiative, and encouraging other donors to mobilize resources for education.

Analyst: Julien Russell Brunet

United States: -1

The United States has failed to comply with its commitment to the meet funding shortfalls for FTI-endorsed countries.

On 19 September 2008, a United States Agency for International Development-funded boarding school for ethnic minorities and children with disabilities opened in Kon Tum, Vietnam. Built in collaborative effort with local government agencies, the Kon Ray Boarding School should “help reduce the education gap between mountainous areas and urban areas.”⁷³³ US Ambassador Michael Michalak stated that US support of education programs “will ensure a better life for all and provide tools for Vietnam to compete even more effectively in today’s global economy.”⁷³⁴ Vietnam is an FTI-endorsed country, but this single project pales in comparison to larger FTI contributions made by other G8 members.

According to the Global Campaign for Education, the United States’ contribution falls short of its “fair share” of FTI targets.⁷³⁵ The Campaign’s recent report states that the US and three other donor countries (Germany, Italy, and the Japan) have collectively contributed only 10 per cent of the amount needed to fulfill their promises on universal education.⁷³⁶

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of -1. The United States has not provided any large-scale funding for the FTI, and has not mobilized resources from other sources in this compliance cycle.

Analyst: Nicole Formosa

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment on the Fast Track Initiative.

When the FTI cannot mobilize bilateral assistance, it can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor funds: the Catalytic Fund and the Education Program

⁷³³ USAID-Funded Boarding School for Disadvantaged Opens in Kon Tum Province, USAID (Kon Tum) 19 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008.

http://www.usaid.gov/rdma/articles/press_release_296.html.

⁷³⁴ USAID-Funded Boarding School for Disadvantaged Opens in Kon Tum Province, USAID (Kon Tum) 19 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008.

http://www.usaid.gov/rdma/articles/press_release_296.html.

⁷³⁵ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments’ Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

⁷³⁶ No Excuses: A Global Report Card Ranking Governments’ Efforts to Achieve Education for All – Half Term, Global Campaign for Education, 2008.

Development Fund (EPDF). Between April and September 2008, the European Commission increased its promised funds to the Catalytic Fund by USD3.4 million, and disbursed USD24.7 million in existing pledges.⁷³⁷ It is unclear whether these actions were taken during the current compliance cycle. Between September and December 2008, however, the Commission promised an additional USD300,000 to the Catalytic Fund, and disbursed USD13.7 million in existing pledges.⁷³⁸

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of 0. While its pledges and disbursements to support the FTI has increased, the EU has not pursued shortfall funding from other donors.

Analyst: Nicole Formosa

⁷³⁷ FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Paris) 17 September 2008. Date of Access: 11 December 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/paris%20sc/FINAL%20CF%20Interim%20Status%20Report%20Paris%20Meeting%20Sept%2017%202008.pdf>.

FTI Catalytic Fund Interim Status Report, Fast Track Initiative (Tokyo) 22 April 2008. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf.

⁷³⁸ Catalytic Fund Annual Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Oslo) December 2008. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/FINAL_CF_Annual_Status_Report_Oslo_2008.pdf.